

# School of Public Policy and Administration

## Weekly Newsletter

March 2013 – Volume 1, Issue 1

### Important Reminders

#### Summer Course Enrolment Period

Please check your course enrolment slots for the 2013 Summer session as students can begin to enroll between March 5-March 22. For more information on course enrolment, visit <http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/guide/>

#### Online & In-Class Course Evaluations

Online course evaluations are available to students from March 19-April 9. In-class course evaluations will be completed during this time period as per the discretion of the course instructor. Please check with your course director for more details on the format of their course evaluations.

#### Winter Exam Period

Winter term course end Monday, April 8, 2013. The final exam period begins Wednesday, April 10 and ends Friday, April 26.

### Seminars/Workshops

*See next week's announcements...*

### SPPA Events

#### School of Public Policy & Administration Open House

The Open House is for all undergraduate students interested in majoring or minoring in Public Administration. Come meet the faculty, alumni and

learn more about the School, its programs and all that it has to offer.

Date: Monday, April 8, 2013

Time: 12:00pm-2:00pm

Location: McLaughlin 140 (SCR)

Pizza and refreshments will be provided.

#### Education for Good Governance

Our mission is to educate for good governance. Integrating extensive educational and research resources we prepare current and future policy makers, policy analysts, managers and other professionals in the public, private and para-public sectors for effective, efficient, and accountable democratic governance in a complex and multicultural world.

### Other Events

As part of our popular lunch talk series brain food  
McLaughlin College Proudly Presents:

“Acknowledging and Advancing Refugee Rights in Canada – April 4th, Refugee Rights Day in Canada”

Presented by ~ A Panel of Speakers

#### Panelists:

- University Professor Ian Greene - Master, McLaughlin College, York University
- Geraldine MacDonald - Barrister and Solicitor, President of the Refugee Lawyers Association of Ontario (RLAO)
- Professor James C. Simeon - Acting Director, Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS)

On April 4, 1985, the Supreme Court of Canada (SCC) released one of its first decisions

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under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms under Section 7, "Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of the person and the right not to be deprived thereof except in accordance with the principles of fundamental justice." The SCC ruled that the word "everyone" refers to all persons who are on the territory of Canada and not just Canadian citizens or permanent residents. It further ruled that because the refugee status determination system, at that time, did not have an oral hearing it did not conform to "the principles of fundamental justice."

Justice Bertha Wilson, the first female Justice of the SCC who wrote the majority opinion, stated that, "The principles of natural justice and procedural fairness which have long been espoused by our courts, and the constitutional entrenchment of the principles of fundamental justice in s. 7, implicitly recognizes that the balance of administrative convenience does not override the need to adhere to these principles." The SCC's Singh decision led to dramatic changes to Canada's refugee status determination system. The Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada (IRB) was established to allow all refugee applicants to have an oral hearing in their application for refugee protection.

April 4th has been designated as "Refugee Rights Day in Canada" in recognition of the SCC's famous Singh decision.

Co-sponsored by McLaughlin, Master's Office, Centre for Refugee Studies (CRS), Refugee Lawyers Association of Ontario (RLAO) and The Ontario Metropolis Centre (CERIS)  
**THURSDAY APRIL 4, 2013 SENIOR COMMON ROOM 12PM – 2PM 140 McLAUGHLIN COLLEGE**

Everyone Welcome  
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

**Kitty Lundy Memorial Lecture**  
**Minds that Matter: Human Rights, Mental Health and Addictions**

Barbara Hall  
Chief Commissioner  
Ontario Human Rights Commission

5pm :: Thursday, March 28, 2013  
McEwen Auditorium, Schulich Building  
~Reception to Follow~  
[www.yorku.ca/laps/lundy](http://www.yorku.ca/laps/lundy)

**Faculty of LA & PS Research Celebration**

Robert Haché  
Vice-President Research Innovation  
&  
Martin Singer  
Dean, Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies

Invite you to join us to

Celebrate Research and Scholarship a Commitment to Equity, Justice, and Democracy

Wednesday, March 27, 2013  
2:00-4:00pm

Senate Chamber  
Room N940, Ross Building  
York University

Please join us for presentations by the LA&PS  
Trudeau Fellows in conversation with students:

Professor Isabella Bakker, Trudeau Fellow  
Department of Political Science  
Title: "(Re)Searching with Trudeau"

Suzanne Hawkins  
James Fitzgerald

Professor Haldeh Moghissi, Trudeau Fellow  
Department of Equity Studies  
Title: "Academic work: In pursuit of practical goals or unexamined truth"

Saba Abbas  
Bahar Hashemi

Event Highlights include Undergraduate Student  
Research Fair posters and Faculty Publications on  
Display

**Faculty of Fine Arts Research Celebration**

Date: Monday, March 25, 2013  
Time: 9:00am - 12:00pm  
Location: McLean Performance Studio, Accolade  
East Building

Robert Haché, Vice-President Research & Innovation and

Barbara Sellers-Young, Dean Faculty of Fine Arts

invite you to join them for a Research Celebration highlighting

The Object Considered: Curating as a Way of Thinking"

The Faculty of Fine Arts, in collaboration with the Aga Khan Museum, invites participants to explore curating as an interdisciplinary creative research activity.

Guests will discover how direct engagement with a historical object can challenge us to think in new ways beyond our individual disciplinary and cultural boundaries.

The session will be led by Dr. Henry Kim, director of the Aga Kha Museum in Toronto, and former curator of Oxford University's Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology and director of the Ashmolean's University Engagement Programme.

RSVP: [http://bit.ly/Fine\\_Arts\\_Research](http://bit.ly/Fine_Arts_Research)

## Call for Papers

*See next week's announcements...*

## Contests

### Student Essay Contest - Is the "War on Drugs" working or is it time for drug policy reform?

Showcase your ideas on public policy and the role of markets by entering our essay competition. Each year the Institute holds a competition for students, designed to **encourage and develop student writers**.

- \$2,250 in cash prizes awarded each year.

- Special category for high school students only.
- Winning essays may be published in Fraser Institute journals.

### STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST 2013

#### Prizes

1st Prize: **\$1,000**

2nd Prize: **\$750**

High school category: **\$500**

#### Topic: "Is the "War on Drugs" working or is it time for drug policy reform?"

The so-called "War on Drugs" has cost taxpayers an astronomical amount of money. Yet many would argue that problems associated with illegal drugs and the drug trade are growing. From increased gang violence in Canada to the thousands of people murdered by drug cartels in South America, we must ask ourselves: when are the financial and human costs too high?

When the government's solution is to spend more money on tougher prison sentencing and more policing, the risks associated with the drug trade rise, which causes the price of illegal substances to increase, and makes the drug trade even more lucrative. It is an unwinnable war and many people argue that it is time for drug policy reform.

#### Application Rules:

1. The contest is open to Canadian and foreign students. A student is defined as someone who attends school in the 2012/2013 school year or is enrolled to attend in 2013/2014.
2. Submissions will be considered from secondary and post-secondary (undergraduate and graduate) students in all disciplines. High school students will be considered in a separate category, with a cash prize of \$500. High school submissions will not be excluded from winning the \$750 and \$1,000 post-secondary prizes.
3. Entry must include a typed essay of 1,000-1,500 words, and a cover sheet including the student's name, mailing address, phone number, e-mail address. High school students should include school and grade.

Post-secondary students should include school, major, and year of graduation.

4. Entries will be accepted in English and French.
5. Entries must include references cited from academic sources. Any academically acceptable referencing style may be used.
6. Please note that if you are planning to include a graph in your essay, you must send it to us in an Excel file with the underlying data in order that we can recreate it in house. If you want to include a previously published graph for which you do not have the underlying data, you must cite its source appropriately to prove that you have permission to reuse it.
7. Entries must be submitted online or by mail.
8. Entries may only be submitted once. Further submissions with revisions will not be accepted.
9. Failure to follow these rules may lead to disqualification from the contest.
10. Entries will be judged on originality, clear expression of ideas, and understanding of competitive markets.
11. All entries become of the property of the Fraser Institute. In addition to receiving cash prizes, winners may be published in *Canadian Student Review* once they have gone through the peer review process.
12. The deadline is 5:00 pm (PST) on May 31st, 2013.

[Enter the Essay Contest](#)

**For more information call:** 1-800-665-3558, ext. 533 or email [sheena.graham@fraserinstitute.org](mailto:sheena.graham@fraserinstitute.org)

**Please visit the link below for more information:**

<http://www.fraserinstitute.org/education-programs/students/essay-contest.aspx>

## Employment Opportunities

### Ontario Government Summer Jobs

Once again the Ontario government will be offering employment to several thousand students this summer. While wages are not great, the experience of working in government is.

Visit the following URL for more details about the jobs on offer.

Please see link below to summer student job postings in the Ontario Public Service:

<http://www.gojobs.gov.on.ca/Search.aspx?Language=English>

Please remember 1.) Only apply for jobs in cities and regions of the province that you are seriously interested in working in

2.) Under job category, make sure you scroll down to the bottom of the list to find the student summer experience jobs.

If you have any questions, please contact the School of Public Policy and Administration for more information at 416.736.5384.

## Volunteer Opportunities

*See next week's announcements...*

## Internship Opportunities

### Attention Spring 2013 Graduates ISRAEL GOVERNMENT FELLOWS

Endorsed by the Office of the Prime Minister, the IGF Program offers its Fellows a unique opportunity for professional and personal development with a 10 month placement within the Israeli government or a leading Israeli think tank. Fellows will be assigned a mentor and benefit from an intensive Hebrew course and educational program exploring the complex issues of Israeli society today.

Please visit <http://www.igf.org.il/> for more information and/or contact SPPA Director, Daniel Cohn.

## Other

### Moving Transportation into the 21st Century

#### ***Building the York University Community: an IRIS Campus Sustainability Survey on Transportation***

Fill out the survey for a chance to WIN A Monthly Metropass! All York students, staff, and faculty are invited to participate. Survey open until March, 22 2013.

Look for IRIS survey stations across the Keele and Glendon campuses March 6-22! Visit to complete the survey online!

[www.surveymonkey.com/s/iris\\_survey2013](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/iris_survey2013)

#### ***About the survey:***

York University is one of the greenest universities in Canada. In a continuous effort to promote more sustainable transportation and a cleaner environment, the University is investigating the interest in electric vehicle (EV) ownership. This will assist in planning for providing electrical vehicles charging stations. This survey also seeks your critical input in planning for other transportation initiatives, including the Yonge-University-Spadina subway expansion to York, parking, as well as assist in building a carpooling culture and improving cycling infrastructure.

This survey is conducted by IRIS-the Institute for Research and Innovation in Sustainability (IRIS) on behalf of Campus Services & Business Operations (CSBO), with input from York community members.

#### ***About IRIS- the Institute for Research and Innovation in Sustainability:***

IRIS ([www.iris.yorku.ca](http://www.iris.yorku.ca)) is an interdisciplinary research centre at York University dedicated to pursuing multifaceted approaches to the contemporary challenges of sustainability. It is a focal point for sustainability-related research and action at all ten of York's faculties. Through collaborative and interdisciplinary research, IRIS strives to push beyond traditional research methods to tackle real-world challenges with unique solutions. It supports sustainability-related research of York faculty members and students and is a leader in trans-disciplinary team-based

research.

To see past IRIS Campus Sustainability surveys, visit <http://www.iris.yorku.ca/projects/campus-sustainability-surveys/>